

SOUTH DAKOTA NATIONAL GUARD CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM

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www.facebook.com/SDNGYOUTHPROGRAM

April 2013

Dear South Dakota National Guard Parents,

Hello from the SDNG Child & Youth Program! We hope that this letter finds you well and that everyone is enjoying this wonderful Spring weather!

Please join us this month in thanking your children for all that they do by honoring them during Month of the Military Child. This is a time to recognize their character, strength, and resilience. Our military youth are impacted on a daily basis, whether their service member is home, deployed, at drill, or attending a training or school. They are a valuable part of our family and community, and they serve too!

There are more than 7,000 military children in South Dakota - of these children and youth, more than 3,600 are directly affiliated with the South Dakota Army and Air National Guard.

Please celebrate the military children in your life. The theme for this year's Month of the Military Child is "Military Children: Proud, Ready, and Resilient." Please find enclosed a certificate that is signed by MG Reisch, Adjutant General of the South Dakota National Guard. Please add your child's name and present this certificate to them in recognition of all that they do. Additional copies can also be found by going to our Service Member & Family Support website at <https://sdguard.ngb.army.mil/sites/famsup/default.aspx> - select "Youth Program" on the left-hand side and then "Month of the Military Child." You can also contact Taryn Broomfield direct for additional copies or to personalize your certificates as well.

Enclosed is also a copy of an Executive Proclamation from Governor Daugaard, proclaiming April 2013 as Month of the Military Child, as well as information regarding the SDNG Child & Youth Program and several resources that are available to your children and family.

Help honor and celebrate our military children!

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SDNG CHILD & YOUTH PROGRAM

Developing Tomorrow's Leaders from Today's Young Heroes

The South Dakota National Guard Youth Program was implemented by the National Guard Bureau in 2001. We have grown tremendously since that time. The goal of our program is to support the social, emotional, and academic needs of military children and youth in South Dakota. We strive to do this by implementing programs and activities that promote leadership and character development, build confidence, and help youth connect with other military youth throughout the state and better understand their role as a military child. We also provide information and resources to youth and their families and partner with other organizations.

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RESOURCES



The Military Child Education Coalition provides training to educators, counselors, and community members on supporting military youth during times of transition.

www.militarychild.org



Our Military Kids provides grants of up to \$500 for six months for extracurricular activities for dependants of deployed Service Members.

www.ourmilitarykids.org



The Zero to Three program provides resources and educational information to parents and service providers working with young children.

www.zerotothree.org



Operation: Military Kids works to provide information to communities and support to military youth impacted by deployment.

www.operationmilitarykids.org



The National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies / Child Care Aware is the nation's leading voice for child care and offers child care assistance programs for qualifying military families.

www.NACCRA.org



Tutor.com provides eligible military youth and teens (active duty/deployed dependant) access to highly trained educators who can provide help with homework, writing assignments, and study skills.

www.tutor.com



The National Fatherhood Initiative works to provide education and information to help fathers strengthen relationships with their children.

www.fatherhood.org



Military OneSource is a 24/7 resource for those in the military community. Resources are available online or by phone at 1-800-342-9647.

www.militaryonesource.com